

Center for Community Preparedness - Logistics

The Center for Community Preparedness (CCP) is involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of plans to carry out the roles and responsibilities of Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) for the state's Emergency Support Function – 8 (ESF-8; medical services and public health) during a declared disaster. Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) - Logistics Section functions in a leadership role to provide direction and guidance for the nine Public Health Regions as they aim to carry out the overall logistics mission of DHH by ensuring the continued health and safety of the citizens of the State of Louisiana. More specifically, ESF-8 through PHEPR aims to protect the more than five million citizens which include the state's vulnerable population. Logistics is responsible for maintaining the DHH Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which serves as the physical command post for ESF-8 during an emergency activation or response. The DHH EOC coordinates and facilitates the continuation of core public health in times of disaster through the command functions Finance, Logistics, Operations, and Planning, by providing leadership to the nine public health regions to carry out the ESF-8 mission of public health to Louisiana citizens. On an ongoing basis, the Center for Community Preparedness uses the EOC as a training laboratory, and aims to provide public health employees with a knowledge base and skill set that reflects the Emergency Preparedness Competencies for Public Health Workers. The success of DHH's response efforts is directly related to the ongoing planning conducted by CCP as they are the lead for all emergency preparedness and response activities for DHH. The Logistics section provides resources to the general public that may not otherwise be available during emergency situations. The Logistics Section manages approximately 9.5 million dollars of an emergency cache of medicines, medical supplies and equipment that will be distributed to save lives. Without the Center for Community Preparedness, specifically the Logistics Section, the citizens of the state of Louisiana would not have the resources necessary to sustain life during and following a disaster situation.

Objective

List an objective for the listed activity. (Maximum length 300 characters):

- I. To coordinate and maintain the physical assets of ESF-8
- II. To prepare for and coordinate the receipt and distribution of federal assets

- III. Establish, maintain and enhance the tactical communications infrastructure for daily as well as emergency response operations
- IV. Ensure that all ESF-8 emergency response personnel are trained on the availability and use of all assets and resources

Performance Indicators

- Strategic National Stockpile Technical Assistance Review minimum of 79%
- Strategic National Stockpile Quarterly Calldown
- Cities Readiness Initiative Technical Assistance Review
- Public Health Information Network Certification
- After Action Review/Corrective Action Plans for Full Scale Exercises, Functional Exercises and Real World Events
- CDC PHEP Performance Measures

Narrative

The Center for Community Preparedness Logistics section is comprised of four key programs: Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), Medical Supply Sustainment (Warehouses/Trailers), Tactical Communications, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management. Logistics supports state medical operations/medical services, such as Medical Special Needs Shelter, Federal Medical Stations, Medical Institution Evacuation Plan, Temporary Medical Operations Staging Area, Search And Rescue Base Of Operations, Critical Transportation Needs Shelter, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), hospitals, and parishes by providing the medical equipment that may be needed during an event as well as the equipment and supplies that may be needed in preparation for an event . Through Command and Control, Logistics manages the DHH Emergency Operations Center that coordinates and supports regional response efforts. Through Warehouse Operations, the Logistics Section maintains three warehouses, emergency response trailers, and an emergency cache of supplies and equipment. Logistics provides this equipment and supplies to the local/regional communities in the state once their resources have been exhausted and/or supply chains have been disrupted. In addition, the Logistics Section trains DHH staff to augment warehouse/distribution operations as the state initially responds to an expanding local/regional incident. Through SNS, Logistics is able to receive and manage federal assets as the state resources have been depleted and/or supply chains have been disrupted. The Receiving, Staging, and Storing (RSS) Sites are confidential locations where medical assets are delivered during a Public Health Emergency Response. These sites are preidentified and validated by CDC to ensure that they are adequate for the receipt and distribution of medical material. The Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) program aids identified cities in increasing their capacity to deliver medicines and medical supplies during a large scale public health emergency within 24 hours. The Strategic National Stockpile Program collaborates with private organizations and other community stakeholders and partners to identify Point of Dispensing Sites (PODS) that can be used to provide prophylaxis to the community during a public health emergency. Through the CHEMPACK Program, Logistics has identified 17 host sites that are strategically placed throughout the state to house thirty CHEMPACK containers containing antidotes for nerve agent. Through the Biohazard Detection System (BDS) Plan,

Logistics partners with the United States Postal System, to coordinate and facilitate planning in five regions for public health employees to respond to and be able to provide medical support in the event of a postal alarm identifying a contaminated letter/package. Through Tactical Communications, Logistics is able to sustain interoperability and redundant communications for Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF 8) Operations. Logistics provides radios, conducts training on equipment usage, and conducts call downs and drills to ensure that equipment is functional at all times for public health employees, hospitals, and FQHC responders. The Tactical Communications program consists of several key components including Health Alert Network – an emergency notification system that includes messaging and alerting for DHH and partners. The Health Alert Network was instrumental during the Spring 2009 H1N1 response in providing rapid information to DHH staff and community partners via email, fax and phone. A key component to the success of the Logistics program is the trainings and exercises conducted in an effort to build a system of redundancy through cross training. Logistics program manages, coordinates and facilitates HSEEP compliant exercises with State /federal agencies, responders and partners to strengthen the overall ability of personnel to function in settings such as FMS, CHEMPACK, Point of Dispensing Sites, MSNS, and Pandemic Influenza.

Better Health

The Center for Community Preparedness was created as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to coordinate the overall operations of ESF-8. The Logistics section services the Office of Public Health Regions, Hospitals, Nursing Homes, FQHCs, critical ESF-8 personnel and the citizens of the State of Louisiana through collaboration with private industries, community and civic organizations, and other state agencies. Through the Logistics Section, Center for Community Preparedness is able to assess the needs of the community, develop policies to meet those needs, and assure that the community's needs are met by mobilizing community partnerships to assure that the community is protected during natural and manmade disasters.

The activities of the Logistics Section are mandated by several state and federal requirements. These include:

- PHEP Grant–SNS Technical Assistance Review Score of 100%
- HRSA Grant During the 2008 Hurricane Season:
 - Deployed over 4000 oxygen cylinders statewide
 - Deployed critical medical supplies and equipment to all 9 regions to support medical special needs shelters, bus triage operations, critical transportation needs shelters, EMS credentialing site, and aero marshalling points, over a 30 day time period.
 - Assisted in the evacuation of 53 hospitals fully and 19 facilities partially
- LA Health Emergency Powers Act
- Robert T. Stafford Act
- Public Health Information Network Certification

- Cities Readiness Initiative Technical Assistance Review Scores 83%-97% (four regions, servicing 22 parishes)
- April 2009 H1H1 Response 55 Health Alert Network Messages sent out to DHH Staff and community partners

The response to Hurricanes Gustav and Ike as well as the response to the Spring 2009 H1N1 outbreak demonstrate the improvements that have been made to the response capabilities of ESF-8 since the 2005 hurricane season.